

OGC 73-0492

22 March 1973

Honorable Harold H. Greene  
Chief Judge  
Superior Court of the District  
of Columbia  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Judge Greene:

Thank you for your letter of March 16, 1973, concerning the special problems presented by the summoning of certain CIA employees for jury duty.

I also feel that the agreement you enclosed in your letter is a satisfactory accommodation between the requirements of your Court for jurors and the needs of this Agency. Accordingly, I have signed the agreement and am returning it for your retention.

We appreciate your efforts on our behalf.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Lawrence R. Houston  
General Counsel

Enclosure

JGB:ks

Distribution:

Original - Addressee w/enclosure

✓ 1 - JURY DUTY w/background (OGC 73-0477)

1 - JGB Signer

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Superior Court  
of the District of Columbia  
Washington, D. C. 20001

Harold H. Greene  
Chief Judge

March 16, 1973

Lawrence R. Houston, Esq.  
General Counsel  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Houston:

Judge Joseph Ryan, Jr. has communicated to me the special problems presented by the summoning of certain CIA employees for jury duty. Judge Ryan presented to me the attached agreement, which I feel is a satisfactory accommodation between the needs of your agency and the Court's requirements of an adequate number of jurors. Accordingly, I have signed and dated the agreement and I am returning it to you for your signature.

Sincerely,

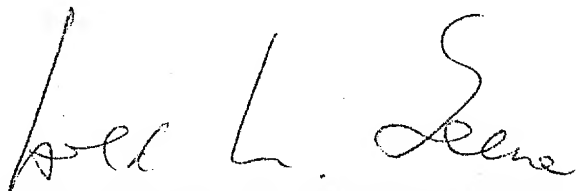
A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Harold H. Greene".

cc: Judge Ryan


POLICY AGREEMENT

For the purpose of accommodating the needs of the Superior Court with respect to jury service and the requirements of the Central Intelligence Agency to safeguard the integrity of their operations it is hereby agreed and understood between the undersigned that with respect to overt employees of the Central Intelligence Agency who are summonsed for jury service by the Superior Court, the Agency shall not request excuses from such service except in cases of unusual hardship.

Secondly, with respect to covert employees of the Central Intelligence Agency, the court shall not require such persons summonsed to serve, provided that the Agency return the summons to this court with a request that that person be excused in accordance with this policy agreement, referring to such agreement only by the date hereof.

  
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Harold H. Greene, Chief Judge, Superior  
Court of the District of Columbia

STATINTL

  
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Lawrence R. Houston, Chief Counsel,  
Central Intelligence Agency

DATED: March 16, 1973

**Superior Court of the District of Columbia**  
**Chambers of Judge Joseph M.F. Ryan, Jr.**

February 2, 1973

Honorable Harold H. Greene  
Building B  
Room 210

Dear Chief Judge Greene

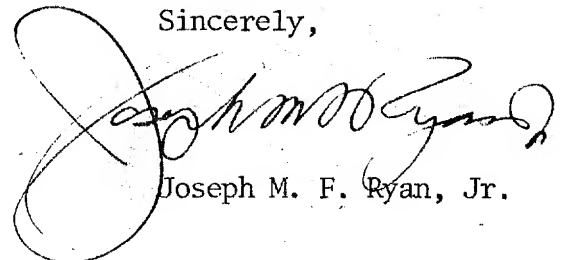
With respect to jury service of the Central Intelligence Agency, there appears to be a problem in the area of certain of their employees. The Agency has no objection to their overt employees being called for jury service and would only ask for excuses with respect to them in cases of unusual hardship.

There is a problem, however small in magnitude, with certain few covert employees. To disclose a connection of these employees with the Agency could well defeat the purpose of their employment. Such disclosure could well be occasioned if they were forced to jury service and answered questions on voir dire.

Lawrence R. Houston, General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency has advised that Chief Judge Sirica of the United States District Court excuses such covert employees from jury service. The matter has come before Judge Sorrell of this court and he has followed Judge Sirica's example. I would suggest that you enter into a policy agreement with Mr. Houston to the effect that the Agency would not ask to have overt employees excused except in exceptional circumstances but would as a matter of course excuse any covert personnel who had been summonsed.

I would further suggest that in the future with respect to the latter cases, the Agency would just forward a letter enclosing a summons and asking that said person be excused in accordance with such policy agreement, giving the date of the agreement. I am enclosing a suggested draft of an agreement.

Sincerely,



Joseph M. F. Ryan, Jr.

Enclosure